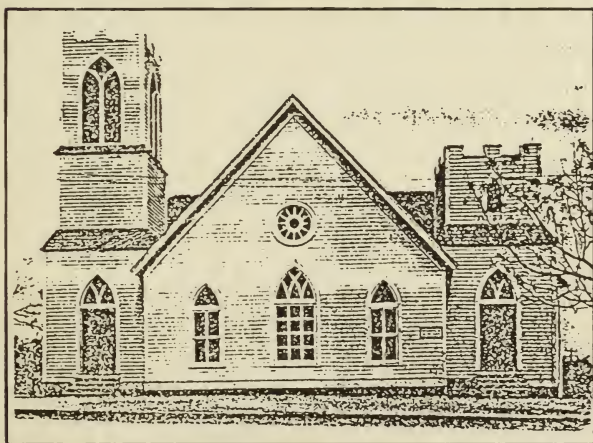


Celebration '86,  
100 Years In Christ



McAdenville Baptist Church  
McAdenville, North Carolina



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## **Portrait Of A Southern Baptist**

A Southern Baptist can be an individual from any walk of life; young, middle age, or elderly. They are individuals who have had a personal experience in Christ, an encounter with God in Christ, whereby he or she realizes they cannot live their life alone, that they need to be forgiven of their sins, and by faith accept Christ as Savior and Lord and are born anew into the family of God to live a new life in fellowship with the Heavenly Father and the help of the Holy Spirit.

They believe in (1) The authority and sufficiency of the Holy Bible; (2) The Priesthood of the believer, whereby every believer may read and interpret the Holy Scriptures as led by the Holy Spirit; (3) Salvation as God's gift to man made possible by the death and resurrection of Christ, received by man through repentance and faith in Christ; (4) In church membership; (5) Baptism by immersion of believers only; (6) The autonomy of the local church; and (7) The sharing of the Gospel at home and around the world.

A Southern Baptist believes their life is to be patterned after the example set by Christ in the loving, caring, sharing, forgiving, and helping of others. These characteristics distinguish a Southern Baptist.

## **Introduction And Dedication**

The history committee of McAdenville Baptist Church has spent many hours, both interesting and frustrating, in researching the history of our much beloved church. We recognize this is not a complete history of our church, there are just so many gaps which we were unable to fill. We hope that you find the articles, pictures, bulletins and other records enjoyable as we try to preserve the memory of our past and present for future generations of McAdenville Baptist members.

This book of history and highlights is dedicated to the members of McAdenville Baptist Church, past, present and future. Without their love, faith, commitment, and strong devotion along with the blessings of our heavenly Father, the church would not be here today nor will it continue into the future.

BBR  
E. B. B.  
#7432

## Acknowledgments

With deep appreciation the history committee acknowledges the contributions and help of many persons. We are grateful to those former pastors, members of former pastors families, church members, and the many individuals who sent information, pictures or records concerning the life of our church.

We also acknowledge the labors of Mrs. Mildred Stafford, Mrs. Shirley Rankin and Rev. Ron Arndt in the researching of the church's history. For the help of Mrs. Mildred Stafford and Mr. Joe Abernathy for selecting the pictures for our history book and placing the names with the people in the pictures. For Mrs. Shirley Rankin who typed the material. For Mr. Steve Rankin who worked with the printer for the production of this material. For Rev. Ron Arndt who wrote the material.

We also are grateful for the financial giving of many persons whose gifts helped offset the expenses of this endeavor, and to each church member without whom there would be no church history.

## Centennial Committees

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Ken Botts  
Danny Reece  
Vicki Tucker

Junior Jenkins  
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Joe McWhirter  
Diane Reece

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### Church Family Directory

Suzanne Rankin  
Vicki Tucker

Betty Aldridge  
Shirley Rankin

Mildred Noles  
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# History Of The Church

## McAdenville Baptist Church McAdenville, North Carolina 1886-1986

The history of McAdenville Baptist Church, or as she was called in her earlier days, McAdenville, is somewhat vague to say the least. Either early records were not kept or they have been lost with the passing of time. To our best ability we have tried to trace our heritage as a church and a people. A large portion of our material has been gathered by searching the old South Fork and Gaston Baptist Assoicational Minutes.

The earliest account of any church we have in McAdenville is the Union Church Building, a small, rectangular, red painted building. Here, in this building, for fifteen years members of different protestant faiths and denominations met to worship at different times.

In 1885 Rev. T.W. Upton, a Baptist preacher who lived near by, was appointed to serve in McAdenville. Services were held once a month and when Rev. Upton came to town he made his home with Mr. J.M. Bumgarner. The first year he was here his salary included \$1.00 given to him by Mrs. Charles Nipper and a new suit valued at \$7.00 given to him by Mr. Bumgarner. Rev. Upton was no doubt the minister who laid the foundation for the beginning of the Baptist Church in McAdenville.

In 1886, with interest rising among those of the Baptist Faith and Denomination, Mr. R.Y. McAden, the proprietor of the McAden Mills, saw an opportunity for a Baptist Church in McAdenville and arranged for Rev. A.G. McManaway, pastor of Tryon Street Church in Charlotte, to come one Sunday a month and preach. During 1886 under Rev. McManaway's leadership, a group of people left the Union Church Building, held an organizational meeting consisting of a revival meeting in which thirty people were baptized. These thirty people organized a church and called themselves The McAdenville Baptist Church. The church began with only those who had been baptized in the revival, and not of members holding church letters.

In 1886 the church applied for acceptance into the South Fork Baptist Association. She was accepted under the watch care of the Association. There were some reservations concerning accepting the church into the Association for in the minutes we find that the Executive Committee did not favor the locating of churches at the cotton mills to be composed mostly of mill people. The Executive Committee stated, "They are frequently so transient that the church's condition would be uncertain. It was thought that it would be best to locate a church in the country, convenient to the mill, and have among the members residents who would give a better prospect of permanency."

In 1887 the church was accepted into the South Fork Baptist Association. While under the watch care of the association the church baptized eight, lost one member by death, and had a membership of thirty.

Their budget included:

Associational Missions.....	\$2.00	Home Missions.....	2.00
State Missions.....	4.00	Foreign Missions.....	2.00
Education .....	2.00	Pastor's Salary.....	60.00

From her humble beginnings the church has always been a mission minded church. This could be one reason God has so blessed her ministry.

During the years of 1887-1892 there is very little information on the church. It seems that during these years the church struggled to remain alive. In 1892 the church asked for a letter of dismissal from the South Fork Association to join the Kings Mountain Association. At the fall associational meeting this request was granted and the associational clerk was advised to prepare such a letter. However, at the Associational meeting of 1893, the church asked that their request be denied and that they be allowed to remain in the Association. This request was granted and they remained a member of the South Fork Association.

In 1893 the Rev. J.M. Bridges was called to the church to serve as pastor. Due to the poor stewardship of the church, only 45¢ was received as an offering for the churches expenses during that year. Rev. Bridges implemented a program of stewardship growth and under his leadership pledges amounting to \$11.95 a month were received to support the church.

In 1899 the church called Rev. B.L. Hoke to serve as pastor. He led the church in a building program based upon the principle, "pay as you go." Whenever the money ran out Rev. Hoke would say, "Brethren, we can't go any further until some more money is raised." In February, 1901, the church building was completed and dedication services held, the theme being, "The Mission of A Baptist Church."

The association reports that during 1901 several of the churches were having phenomenal growth, McAdenville being one of them. That year each church baptized from 10-46 new converts into their church families.

In 1916 under the leadership of Rev. D.E. Vipperman, the church built its first parsonage to provide a home for the minister. The records state that the home was located in one of the best residential sections of the community.

In 1919 McAdenville Baptist Church left the South Fork Association to join the newly formed Gaston Baptist Association. We have been a member and strong supporter of this association ever since.

During the pastorate of Rev. Wilson Padgett the church entered several building programs. In 1948 the church voted to build an educational building consisting of Sunday School rooms and department meeting areas. To finance this project the church borrowed \$40,000. Some in the church were skeptical. They said, "the church will never repay that kind of money." In just two short years the church repaid the loan. In 1955 the church voted to build a new sanctuary that would include an area for worship, a fellowship area, and Sunday School rooms. To finance this building project the church borrowed \$60,000 and sought to raise funds from within the church family. Mr. William James Pharr, owner of Stowe-Pharr Mills, made many financial gifts to the building fund in the form of challenge gifts. He would challenge the people by matching their funds with an equal amount. According to Rev. Padgett, Mr. Pharr would say, "Challenge the people, make them stretch a little, but don't make it hard on them." In 1956 the new sanctuary was completed and a dedication service held. Three years later the \$60,000 loan was repaid. During 1955 the church also built a new parsonage on Mockingbird Lane in McAdenville to provide a home for the minister.

During the years of building and expanding their own facilities the church was not without the spiritual vision of expanding the Kingdom of God. The church saw a need for beginning a mission in the Lakeview area of McAdenville. On the first Sunday in



August, 1954, a meeting in a house on Lakeview Street was held to start a Sunday School Mission. There were 99 people present and the Lakeview Mission was begun. On June 23, 1957, the Lakeview Mission was organized into a Missionary Baptist Church. One of McAdenville's own, the Rev. E.J. Rumfelt, pastor of the Mission since its beginning, was officially elected as the church's pastor.

In 1956 the church again had a vision of starting a Sunday School Mission in the Rankin Hill area of McAdenville. This work continued as a Sunday School and a preaching ministry until 1984. At that time the mission was disbanded and those who had been attending the Rankin Hill Mission were encouraged to become a part of the church fellowship at McAdenville. Several began to attend the services at that time and are now a part of our church family.

Under the leadership of Rev. Harold Brown, the church again entered a building program in 1967. Another educational building was erected with class rooms. Upon completion of this building the church entered a new area of ministry, providing child care for working parents. The object of the Day Care is to provide a Christian environment for children during the day. The Day Care provides the only opportunity many of the children have of hearing about Jesus Christ or having any touch with a church. This program of ministry has been active since its beginning. No one can begin to know the impact this ministry might have on the life of one of these small children.

Today our church family worships, is nurtured in the Christian faith, encouraged, and enjoys Christian fellowship in facilities valued at close to one million dollars. Our church budget for 1986 was almost \$92,000. Our mission giving including the Cooperative Program, Associational Missions, Local Missions, Home and Foreign Missions will exceed \$17,700 this year. Many people have come and gone through this church. Many events have taken place inside these buildings. Many have been won to the Lord here, helped to grow spiritually, been comforted, encouraged, because of this church. Several have felt the call of God for their life here and have responded by going out from this church to serve as missionaries, ministers, and music directors. This church has always been and always will be missionary minded, vision empowered, evangelistic and do all she can to fulfill the plan Christ has for her as a church. May we who live today continue to work to give our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and future members a church history they can be proud of.



Mrs. Nora Costner, or better known by her friends as Mrs. Nodie or Granny, is the oldest living member of McAdenville Baptist Church. On January 27, 1987, she celebrated her 102nd birthday. Coming to McAdenville when she was three, she lived here until 1979 when she entered South Haven Nursing Home. She can remember going to the Old Union Church before the formation of McAdenville Baptist Church. As a faithful church worker, she would bake cakes to sell at the Abernathy's Store in order to raise money for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering to support foreign missions. Her happy spirit is an inspiration to all who have the privilege of knowing her.

Photography courtesy Steve Rankin

Back in the twenties and early thirties, Professor Jim Webb, who lived in McAdenville, had singing schools in the homes and sometimes in the church teaching music to anyone who was interested. The song book, *Class Choir And Congregation*, was used in the singing schools. The rudiments of music with Lessons 1 through 10 were in the front of the book, along with the scale, cadence and all the minor and major keys. Shaped notes were used in teaching.

Mr. Webb with all his pupils, would gather in the homes and sometimes at church and have singings that would last two and three hours. As his pupils grew older and begin to marry and relocate in different communities all over North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Washington, they felt that they should still come together at least once a year to have a singing and renew old friendships.

They decided to have a homecoming the second Sunday in October at the McAdenville Baptist Church for all the pupils of Mr. Webb who went to his singing school and sang from the old *Class Choir and Congregation* hymnbook. All the members of the church were invited to attend. From all information we can gather, 1936 was the first year of these homecomings with dinner on the grounds. After the morning service of reminiscencing and testimonies, the noon day meal was spread on long tables out beside the church. As many as five or six hundred people would attend. After the dinner, everyone would come back in church for an afternoon of singing from the former members of Mr. Webb's singing schools using the old *Class Choir and Congregation* hymnbooks. The singing would sometimes go to four o'clock.

At the first homecoming there was as many as 75 or 80 former members of Mr. Webb's singing school present. As the years passed, these members became older and began to pass away. Mrs. Vergie Wilson is the only surviving member of Mr. Webb's choir in our community.

Some of the men who led these choirs down through the years were Jim Webb, Arch Paysour, George Abernathy, John Turner, Wade Rimmer, George Cavin, Hub Rabon, Will Rankin, Julius Rankin, Ellis Dellinger and others. All of these fine Christian people have gone on to their reward.

This era has passed and now our homecoming is known as the homecoming of the McAdenville Baptist Church.

Olin Rankin



In February 1901 dedication services for the first church sanctuary were held. At a later date, the two educational wings, can be seen to the left and right in the picture, were added to the church.

**Left to right: Rev. W.W. Wilson, T.P. Skidmore, Emmet Skitmore, T.L. Austin**  
**Photo courtesy Mildred Stafford**





The present church sanctuary was completed and the first service held on Easter Sunday in April 1956. The church has a seating capacity of 534, a kitchen and fellowship area, classrooms and offices. The educational building to the left in your picture, was completed in 1948 and consists of Sunday School rooms and two department meeting areas.



This picture of the church family was taken in June of 1958. Many of the children in the picture have grown up and are still active in the church.

Photo courtesy Mildred Stafford



## Pastors Of McAdenville Baptist Church

1886	
1887	A.G. McManaway
1888	J.A. White
1889-1890	T.A. Mulinex
1891-1893	J.M. Bridges
1894-1896	NO RECORD
1897-1898	G.M. Webb
1899-1903	B.L. Hoke
1904-1905	J.H. Vipperman
1906	B.L. Hoke
1907	A.P. Bumgardner
1908	J.L. Vipperman
1909	NO RECORD
1910	W.B. McClure
1911	J.D. Moose
1912	W.B. McClure
1913-1914	C.A. Caldwell
1915	Walter E. Wilson
1916	D.E. Vipperman
1917-1919	Rush Padgett
1919-1921	C.A. Caldwell
1922-1923	H.E. Waldrop
1924-1926	C.A. Caldwell
1927	D.E. Vipperman
1928	Preston Blake
1929	W.D. Rivenback
1930-1936	D.C. Wesson
1937-1942	J.A. Snow
1942-1945	Ernest M. Smith
1946	A.C. Lineberger
1947	D.C. Wesson
1948-1958	Wilson W. Padgett
1959-1962	J.L. McCluney
1963	E.B. Smith, Jr. Interim
1964-1971	Harold Brown
1972	E.J. Rumpfelt, Interim
1973-1979	Billy R. Miller
1979-1988	Ronald Arndt

## OUR PASTORS PAGE

The ministry of the Word of God has always been a top priority of the McAdenville Baptist Church. Throughout the years the church has been blessed by having outstanding men who have loved the church and her people and have been faithful to the Lord in their duties.



**Rev. Charles A. Caldwell**  
1913-1914 1919-1921 1924-1926



**Rev. John Henry Vipperman**  
1904-1905



**Rev. D.C. Wesson**  
1930-1936



**Rev. D.E. Vipperman**  
1916



**Rev. Rush Padgett  
1917-1919**

**Photo courtesy Mrs. Hallie Bentley**



**Rev. H.E. Waldrop**  
1922-1923

Photo courtesy  
Mrs. W.A. Jenkins

"I was only two years old when we moved to McAdenville. My time there was infancy.

Daddy came to Shelby in 1924, was pastor of Elizabeth, Ross Grove, Eastside and Buffalo Baptist Churches until 1932.

Later he was the first pastor of Calvary Baptist Church where he retired. He died December 1968."

H.E. Waldrop, Jr.  
Shelby, N.C.



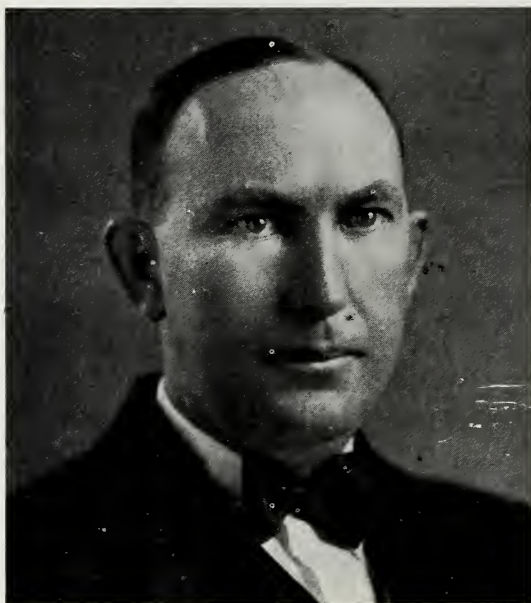
**Rev. Henry Elford Waldrop**  
1922-1923





**Rev. Ernest M. Smith 1942-45**

**Photo courtesy Mildred Stafford**



**Rev. D.C. Wesson Served twice as pastor 1930-1936 and 1947**

**Photo courtesy Marynette Mathis**





In this picture of the Gaston County Pastors taken in 1939, we can see two of our pastors. Dr. J. L. Vipperman, who pastored in 1908 can be seen in the front row, seventh from the left. On the third row, seventh from the left, Rev. J. A. Snow, who pastored from 1937-1942, is sixth from the left.



**Rev. Ernest M. Smith**  
**1942-1945**

"We came to the McAdenville Baptist Church in March of 1942 from the then North Park Baptist Church in High Point. The North Park Church is now the Lexington Avenue Baptist Church.

We arrived on a cold winter day and found the men of the church had a nice warm pastorium (old) waiting for our arrival. They helped unload the furniture and place it in the proper place which made things much easier for us.

From the very beginning it was evident that the people of McAdenville were very warm hearted and hospitable. We settled right in and soon were feeling very much at home.

One thing that impressed us was the way the people came to church on Sunday night. There would be a large attendance on Sunday night. Even larger than we had on Sunday morning. Of course, that was something new to us.

We were there during the heavy war years of World War II. The people were in great distress as they were everywhere because it was a dark time in the history of our nation. McAdenville

had a large number of men in the service of the country. One thing I tried to do was to send a letter to these men as often as possible. It was a big task because we had no secretarial help at that time and all the typing and printing had to be done by the pastor and his wife. We enjoyed doing it and the appreciation of the men in service was all the reward we needed. Many of the men came home from service expressing their appreciation.

One of the very sad experiences we had many times was going to the homes of fathers and mothers and trying to comfort them when they had received word of the loss of a son in service and there was a large number of men lost from McAdenville. Many of the parents never quite got over these losses as all of us can understand.

The people at McAdenville loved to sing and they really opened their hearts and mouths and sang with the spirit and understanding. The fellowship was wonderful. You felt the presence and power of the Spirit in the fellowship of the church every time we met.

So far as physical or material progress while I was there that was not possible because there was a tight lid on building materials and equipment and there was nothing you could do about it. However, we did encourage the people to begin thinking about a new building.

Our stay at McAdenville brought to us some of the dearest friends and warmest relationships we have ever experienced anywhere. Many of the people we worked with, perhaps most of them, have died and we miss them so much when we come back but do not sorrow for them as those who have no hope because we believe the words of Christ "Because I live, ye shall live also."



**Rev. Rommie Pierce served as interim pastor part of 1946 and part of 1947. It is said he attracted quite a following of the young single girls. It's not quite clear whether it was his preaching or the fact that he was an eligible bachelor.**

**Photo courtesy Mildred Stafford**



**Rev. Wilson W. Padgett  
1948-1958**

Love for God and love for one another. After thirty-five years the deep love still abides in our hearts.

Conclusion: The unity of spirit that bound the church and industry in a oneness. The support and generosity of Mr. W.J. Pharr which was always present.

Thank God for the little corner of Heaven in the hearts of the great people of Christmas Town U.S.A."

I Growth in Stewardship which made possible several building programs:

- 1 Building of Educational Building
- 2 Home for displaced family
- 3 Building of parsonage
- 4 Building of recreational building (which was called "Church Hut")
- 5 Building of new sanctuary

II Loyalty to church attendance (good consistent attendance) to all services

- 1 Evangelistic spirit which resulted in good average growth. This program led by men of the church
- 2 My last revival there as pastor was led by laymen and resulted in 21 baptisms in the week's revival. I baptized three husbands and wives together at the same service.

III The greatest thing I remember was the spirit of love that made the church a joy to serve.





**Rev. J.L. McCluney**  
**1959-1962**

McAdenville Church has a great history, and I thank God for permitting me to have small part in the ministry there.

My most favorite memory of being pastor of McAdenville Baptist Church four years and ten months was to see one hundred thirty eight people join the church, a large number of whom came upon a profession of faith in the Lord for baptism.

Another outstanding memory for me was when the church sponsored a mission trip to Kingston, Jamaica, British West Indies. I preached in a number of churches, and many made professions of faith in the Lord.

May the Lord continue to bless you in His work as you serve the church and the people of the community.





**Rev. Harold L. Brown, Sr.**  
**1964-1971**

"Some of the high-lights of our ministry there in the McAdenville Baptist Church.

There were three outstanding events in our ministry at McAdenville Baptist Church. There were many other wonderful, precious experiences, but these three stand out.

The first one was the construction and building of the new Children's Building; and simultaneously along with this the beginning of the McAdenville Baptist Day Care Center with Mrs. Marian Brown as the first Director of the Day Care Center work. From this work at least three families were led to Christ and two of them united with the McAdenville Baptist Church.

The second outstanding event was being a part of the McAdenville Pastor's Conference and the beginning of the Ball Park Revivals. It was by the direct leadership of the Lord that we engaged the services of Dr. Charles Howard to preach nightly in the Ball Park. It will be remembered that he had just survived a heart attack, but he came and preached royally every night. It was a joy and

a privilege to see and hear Dr. Howard each night as he quoted the entire 6th Chapter of Isaiah, the entire 3rd Chapter of John's Gospel and the entire 12th Chapter of Romans. Then on the last night of the revival we had almost 4,000 or more people in attendance at the revival.

That was truly a major spiritual victory for all the people in the McAdenville area for all the churches in the area reaped in the harvest of souls due to this tremendous revival.

The third event was the year in which I, as pastor, and 4 or 5 of our deacons, and some deacons from neighboring churches met every morning of the week (Monday through Friday) at 6 AM for intense intercessory prayer. We prayed for all the needs of our community. We earnestly sent up our petitions for the lost and the unsaved of the community. It was during this year that McAdenville Baptist Church had over 40 additions by baptism. Also you could feel the presence of the power of God as you walked up to the front portico of the church. God's Presence and Power were felt mightily throughout the community that year and a vital spark of the power came from the prayer meetings held in Norman Hick's home at 6 AM each morning. My earnest prayer is that it could happen again.

I realize that this is a bit lengthy letter but I earnestly wanted to list these three outstanding events for they have greatly blessed the McAdenville Community from that day until this. Now all honor, and all the Glory for everything that was accomplished belongs unto HIM who makes all things possible."



**Billy R. Miller**  
**1973-1979**

"I shall always remember how McAdenville Baptist Church ministered to my family in our bereavement. The chairman of our deacons was notified of our son's (Brad) death at about 5 AM on the morning of October 30, 1974. At 6 AM, all twelve of our deacons were at the pastorium to minister to us. Then, as the word spread the entire church sought to minister to us. We remain grateful to you for that spirit of love, concern and compassion; not only to you and for us, but to and for each other. Our lives are richer because of our years with you."



**Rev. Ronald D. Arndt**  
**1979-1988**

I appreciate the fact that as a church family, we can disagree on issues and yet when it is all over and everyone has had their say, we work together for the cause of Christ and the good of the church in a spirit of love and unity.

There is the fact that as a church family and pastor we have laughed together in the times of joy and together we have shed tears in the moments of sadness. I feel these experiences have united us in a special loving bond as people and pastor.

This I do know, my years at McAdenville have been happy years for me. They have passed so quickly that it just doesn't seem possible. I look forward to the continued memories I will have of McAdenville Baptist Church and her people and wish you and yours happiness and joy in the future.

My most memorable event? What a difficult question to answer. Serving at McAdenville Baptist Church for eight years has made it possible for a lot of memories to be made. All of which are significant to me.

The experience of love and acceptance shown to my wife, children and me by the church family when we moved on the church field, by dropping by just to say hello and welcome, making us feel at home right away.

There have been many things we have done as a church to enhance our worship experience and to enrich our spiritual life. The church family Thanksgiving meal, the Christmas cantatas and caroling. The Passover Feast at Easter, the many baptismal services and the communion experiences.

Our children have literally grown up here. Of the many places they have lived, McAdenville is where they have put down roots, the place they call home and so do we.



**Former pastors D.C. Wesson, left, Ernest Smith, right, join with Wilson Padgett center, for the funeral of Mr. Tom Thomasson. In the background is Clarence Payne.**

**Photo courtesy of Marynette Mathis**





**In this picture is the church family standing in front of the first church building. When this picture was taken, the two educational wings had been added to the church. Notice all the hats.**

**Photo courtesy of Bessie Rumfelt**





In the late 40's, the church was strong in membership with a large number of children attending. Perhaps you can find yourself or someone you know in this church family picture made sometime in the late 1940's.

Photo courtesy Bessie Reece



In August 1954 the church began sponsoring a Sunday School Mission in the Lakewview are of McAdenville. On June 23, 1957, the mission was organized into the Lakewview Baptist Church with a beginning membership of 122. Rev. E.J. Rumfelt, who had been serving the Sunday School Mission as pastor, was also called as pastor of the new church.



**One of our pastors baptizing in the South Fork River.**



This picture of Mrs. Bessie Rumfelt and her Sunday School Class of Junior girls was taken between 1943-45. Rev. E.M. Smith, who was pastor of the church, is also in the picture.

Photo courtesy Bessie Rumfelt





**This Mother and Daughter GA Banquet was held in 1947 in the upstairs room of the town library.**

**Front row: L-R: Ruth Hallman, Rachel Hallman, Audrey Barnhill, Susie Dominy, Lillian Rankin, Gaynell Hamrick, Mabel Hunsucker, Louise Jenkins, Mabel Watts, Venecia Watts.**

**Second Row: L-R: Gwen Lucas, Hannah Lucas, Frankie Savage, Lou Savage, Pauline Jenkins, Arliss Jenkins, Nancy Wesson, Hilda Horton, Joy Dellinger, Betty Auten, Bessie Rumfelt, Mary Grace Horton, Mrs. Vasti Wesson, pastor's wife**

**Photo courtesy of Bessie Rumfelt**





The McAdenville Male Chorus provided many an inspirational moment for those who heard them during the 1940's and 1950's. Mrs. Cora Lee Jenkins was the pianist and the chorus was directed by Mr. Ellis Dellinger, to Mrs. Jenkins' right and assisted by Mr. Olin Rankin, to the left of Mrs. Jenkins.

**Seated L-R: Will Rankin, Tom Thomasson, Olin Rankin, Mrs. Cora Lee Jenkins, Ellis Dellinger, George Costner, Sam Jenkins, Labe Abernathy, Jr.**

**Standing L-R: Dwight Watts, Bill Jenkins, Walt Savage, Carrol Watts, Paul Cobb, Fred Mason, Jim Guin, Bill Poole, Lee Jenkins, Roy Botts, J.D. Gardner, Odell Rankin, Raymond Turner**

**Back Row L-R: Truett Abernathy, Harold Rankin, Joe Abernathy, Ken Botts, Charlie Adcock, Ken Hunsucker, Bobby Bynum, Rob Rankin**

**Photo courtesy Marynette Mathis**



**McAdenville Baptist Church Ladies Quartet**

**L-R: Standing: Mildred Price Stafford, Doris Rhyne, Leoybell Hoffman, Hazel Gardner.**

**Seated: Cora Lee Jenkins, Mr. Ellis Dellinger**

While Mr. Ellis Dellinger was Music Director of the church, he formed a ladies quartet made up of Mildred Price, Doris Rhyne, Loeybell Hoffman and Hazel Gardner. Cora Lee Jenkins was pianist.

The quartet sang on the radio on Saturday afternoons with Rev. Wilson Padgett doing the preaching. They also sang at revivals in and around the area and at Associational Meetings.



In 1957 Mildred Noles and Alton Rhyne were teachers in the Beginners Department. Here are some of their children.

L-R: Mark Noles, Alton Rhyne, Patti Rhyne, Paula Padgett, unknown, Beth Abernathy, Lamar Carter, Vicky Hunsucker, Ted Rankin, Danny McMahan, Dennis Brittain, Wandy Hill

Photo courtesy Mildred Noles



This picture taken between 1919-1921 shows the first church parsonage which was built in 1916 and was located in the Albea Town section of McAdenville.

Standing on the porch L-R:

Rev. David H. Vipperman, T.L. Austin, Ed Austin, Charlie Austin, John Austin and Rev. Charlie A. Caldwell.

Photo courtesy Mildred Stafford





This picture of the Vertie Thrower Sunday School Class was taken in 1929 in front of Mrs. Bessie Rumfelt's home.

Front row L-R: Mildred Austin, Marie Rumfelt, Hazel Rivenbark, Second row L-R: Margaret Wright, Grace Gates, Alton Cloninger, Bernice Adcock, Nellie Rankin, Third Row: Vertie Thrower.

Photo courtesy of Mildred Stafford



This picture taken in 1951 or 1952 shows the men of Mr. Will Rankin's Sunday School Class.

Front row seated: L-R: Paul McMahan, child unknown, Bub Brittain, Don Rankin, Garland Carter, Harold Rankin, Truett Abernathy, Jim Guinn, Hope Cobb, Freddie Cobb, Marvin Walker, Jim Payne

Standing L-R: Labe Abernathy, Bob Grisdale, Bill Mauney, Rush Rankin, Will Rankin, George Costner, Robert McMahan with son Danny, Walt Savage, Jr., Bernard Rankin, Bob Lorance, J.B. Lail, Bill Poole, Fred Hallman with son Jim, Paul Cobb, Rufus Rankin, Roy Botts, C.C. Payne, Jr., Tommy Lail

Photo courtesy of Steve Rankin





**This picture of the Men's Bible Class of 1951, Rev. Ed Rumfelt teacher, was taken behind the McAdenville Community Center.**

**Front row kneeling: Rev. Ed Rumfelt, Lonnie Price, J.E. Clark**

**Second row: Arnold Guin, Harry Guin, Lewis Guin, Frank Barnhill, Leonard Barnhill, Hay Rankin, Jule Rankin, Jim Rankin, Charlie Watts, Lloyd Watts**

**Third row: Collie Fite, Brice Fite, Fred Tarleton, Lee Jenkins, Sam Jenkins, George Rankin, Odell Rankin, Fate Lineberger, Harvey Lineberger**

**Fourth row: Fred Moore, Clarence Payne, James Andrews, Charlie Austin, Walter Ingle, Will Allen, Walt Abernathy, Will Hallman, Luke Hardin, Walt Savage**

**Fifth row: Joe Buie, Alex Holloway, Lee Deaton, Elmer Lineberger, Jerry McMahan, John Pence, Will Watstaff**

**Photo courtesy Edith Barnhill**



In 1956, the church began a Sunday School Mission in the Rankin Hill area of McAdenville. Mr. & Mrs. Fred Rankin graciously provided a home for the mission to meet in each Sunday. Hillary Padgett and Nettie Cloninger began the work with many from the church serving throughout the years. In 1964 Labe Abernathy, pictured began serving as the director and continued until 1984 when the mission joined with the mother church.

Photo courtesy Labe Abernathy



McAdenville Church has always had a deep love and appreciation of her pastors and their families. Here J.E. Clark, far right, is presenting gifts to Rev. Wilson and Hillary Padgett upon the celebration of their tenth anniversary with the church.

Photo courtesy Marynette Mathis

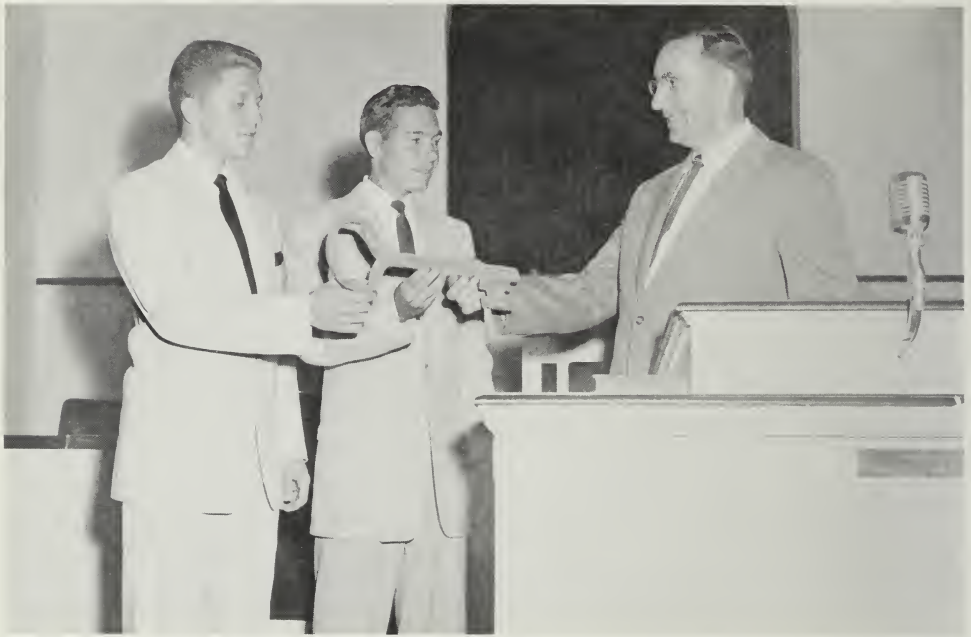


McAdenville Baptist Church has always had a strong missionary ministry. Here in the picture of 1959 we see the Womens Missionary Union and the Girls in Action Mission group.

Photo courtesy Mildred Stafford.



## Youth Week Observed At McAdenville Church



Youth Week observances have always been an emphasis of the church. Here Rev. Wilson Padgett is presenting the key to the church to two of our young men, Frank Gardner in the left of the picture and Harold Fite in the center.

Photo courtesy of Shirley Rankin

The **BIBLICAL RECORDER** story of September 14, 1957 is also shown and this is through the courtesy of Frank Gardner.

The first Youth Week in the history of McAdenville Church was held July 21-28. The youth were in charge of the Wednesday night prayer service and all Sunday services, serving in all places of leadership in the church.

Harold Fite, a ministerial student, served as youth pastor; Ted Horne, Sunday School superintendent; Ned Gardner, Training Union director. The youth pastor brought the message Sunday evening and closed the week with a consecration service.

Youth activities for the summer have been under the direction of Miss Doris Harris, a religious education student from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. Under Miss Harris' leadership the work in all organizations has grown during the summer.

Attendance in Sunday school and in Training Union has averaged approximately 40 above last year, to set a record for the church. Offerings have climbed \$100 per week during the summer. Family Mission Night has also been successfully instituted. Some 55 additions to the church have already been recorded this year, 45 of these coming upon profession of faith.

The "summer slump" has been conspicuous because of its absence. The youth have played a big part in these advances.

Wilson W. Padgett is pastor of the church.





**The McAdenville Baptist Church Men's Brotherhood sometime between 1959-1962,**

**Front Row L-R: Rev J.L. McCluney, Truett Abernathy, Walt Savage, Olin Rankin, Eugene Long. Second Row L-R: Sam Jenkins, Larry Long, Lee Deaton, Labe Abernathy, Jr. Third Row L-R: Alan Moss, Clyde Moss, Robert McMahan, Sr., Price Smith, George Rankin, Fourth Row L-R: Harvey Lineberger, Richard Savage, Don Rankin, Lee Simmons, Lee Jenkins, Fifth Row L-R: Fred Honeycutt, Lee Lineberger, Lynn Harris, Elmer Lineberger, Joel Simmons, Sixth Row L-R: Robert McMahan Jr., Lynn Harris, Jr., Danny Rankin, Benny Moore, Last Row, far right: Joe Abernathy**

## **The Making Of A Poem**

Knowing that Mrs. Grace Davis often wrote poetry, Steve Seagle asked her if she would consider writing a poem commemorating our centennial celebration. Grace gives this account of the birth of the poem “McAdenville Baptist Church 100 Years”.

During the summer of 1986, she and her husband Carl were vacationing at their home in the mountains. It had been one of those nights when you just can’t get to sleep. Rising at 6 a.m., she went into the kitchen to watch the sun rise over the mountains. Sitting at the kitchen table, thoughts about the poem began to come to mind. There, on that summer morning as the first rays of the sun came over the mountain, she wrote the first rough draft. Later she applied the finishing touches, giving us this beautiful poem.

We are indebted to Grace for this poem reminding us of our heritage. We hope you receive a blessing from it’s words and message.

## McAdenville Baptist Church 100 Years

The word of God a century was told  
To each of us was spoken so bold  
The first church in 1886 of timber was robed in white  
It was evident for the purity of Christ who is light  
It stood tall in the town among its people  
A beautiful church with its tall steeple  
The people came to it from all over the community  
To serve their Lord daily was a great opportunity  
This first church building stood for many years  
And the people outgrew it as its peers  
In 1956 a new building was completed of brick and mortar so fine  
To declare God's message to all mankind  
The members were thankful for the beautiful church  
Outreach extended widely to the people they searched  
It's hard work in building a church so divine  
The reward in doing is rich as diamonds refined.  
Friendships that last as the years come and go  
Will shine through the ages as a lamp with a glow.  
The ministers and ministry God has provided  
Each soul a witness and his love has abided.  
Many a saint has entered these doors to impart  
And been filled with His spirit in his heart.  
The ground work they lay with love and devotion  
Rules in our hearts forever in motion.  
Our bold thrust in living this 100 years span  
Is to bring salvation to every man,  
To witness for Christ and demonstrate His love,  
To live His will and know He cares from above  
Our sorrow, our pain, our joys and happiness untold  
God is ever with us as our lives unfold.  
As we leave our work for others to do  
God will be their leader as His will they pursue.

Grace Davis  
1986

Homecoming Services to celebrate the McAdenville Baptist Church 100th birthday were held in October. It was an opportunity to renew old friendships and to make new friends, as well as a time to enjoy delicious food and try to decide what to eat.



**L-R: Hazel Gardner and Edith Vipperman Hooper**



**L-R talking over table Hannah Lucas to Nell Smith and Carl Mullis.  
Standing behind Shirley Rankin, Brenda Smith, further behind them is Doris Rhyne.**





**Look at all those tables of food!**

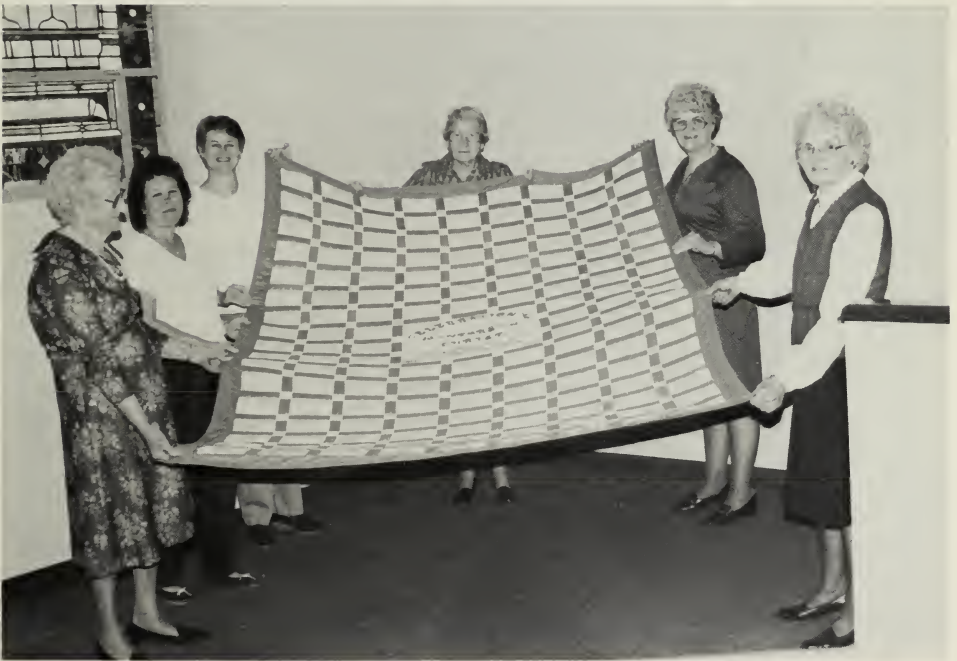


**Down the table: Harold Rankin, Judy Horne, Roger Johnson, Sr, Beckie Pennell, Martha Fraley, Ted Horne**

A birthday party, celebrating McAdenville Baptist Church being 100 years old, was held in July during Vacation Bible School Commencement Services. The party included a cake, the youth presenting music and a skit, and a party in the fellowship hall.

Photos courtesy Shirley Rankin

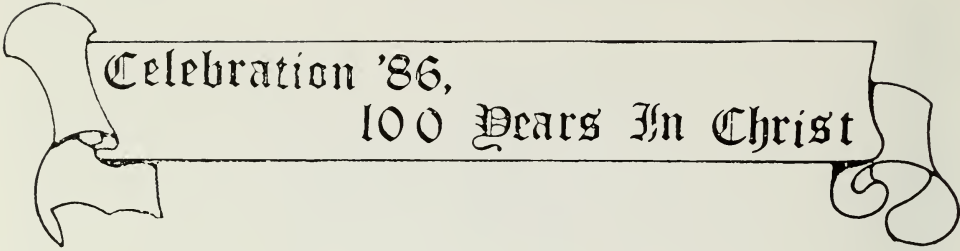




A Centennial Quilt with the names of each church family embroidered upon it can be seen hanging in the prayer room. This quilt of blue, white, and red is a thing of beauty and represents the love and unity of the church family. Pictured with the quilt are members of the committee.

L-R Hattie Bridges; Diane Reece; Beckie Pennell, chairman; Zona Smith; Bessie Reece and Bessie Rumpf





### Celebration '86, 100 Years In Christ

1986, what a wonderful year in the life of our church. So many different things were done and supported so actively, by the church family. Please allow me a few moments to reflect on the year.

I remember the church birthday party; the cake, the excitement, and the releasing of the balloons by our people which carried the message of God's love for everyone.

The production of the church family directory with the pictures of our church families. Who knows, when the church celebrates her 200th birthday, just might be that as they look at us in 1986, one from 1986 will be there to tell how it was.

"Old Fashion Day"—what a thrill as our members dressed in the attire of our forefathers. Everyone looked so grand. The choir did an outstanding work presenting the musical JUST HOOKED BY GOSPEL, a blend of the old and new hymns. Remember the channel 9 newsman being present, taping the events to show on the six o'clock news. How that night we brought a television to church, watching in excitement when we would see our celebration on television. The disappointment when there was only ten seconds of our celebration shown. Heartbreaking? Yes.

Then the "church family day picnic"—hotdogs, hamburgers, games of the past, horseshoes, volleyball, miniature golf, croquet. The weather was hot, but the fun, food and fellowship sure was great.

The ladies working on the centennial quilt were a joy to see, as the names of our church members began to take shape on the quilt. Now hanging in the prayer room, the quilt will be a reminder of our family in God.

I liked seeing the church artifacts on display. Bulletins, furniture, records, pictures, they raised my appreciation for the past and gave new hope for the present and future.

Homecoming was a thrill. I've never seen that many people at church before. It was a privilege and scary task bringing the homecoming message that day. Then the fellowship around the tables laden with delicious food. Followed by the afternoon service when our former pastors were given an opportunity to speak. Could not have been better.

So much happened in 1986. So much excitement, so much spiritual growth among our church family, so much to remember. I would like to be around for McAdenville Baptist Church's 200th celebration. It would be nice to see how they remember us, to see the changes, and their hopes for the future. The year 1986 was a good year, yet I believe God has the best for us in the future. Let us live boldly for Him to bring honor and glory to His name and His church.

Ron Arndt









